

Federal Emergency Management Agency

PUBLIC NOTICE

**Notice of Availability of the Draft Tiered Site-Specific Environmental Assessment (Draft SEA)
for the Regional Marine Security Center Project**

Jefferson County, Texas

Port Security Grant Program, American Recovery and Reinvestment Act

Project # 2009-Pu-R1-0410

Interested persons are hereby notified that Jefferson County has applied to the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, Port Security Grant Program for funding to assist with the construction of a new Regional Marine Security Center in Sabine Pass, Texas. A Programmatic Environmental Assessment (PEA) for Grant Programs Directorate Programs was prepared and a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) was issued in July 2010, in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA), the Council for Environmental Quality (CEQ) regulations implementing regulations of NEPA (40 CFR Parts 1500 – 1508), the National Historic Preservation Act, and the implementing regulations of FEMA (44 CFR Parts 9 and 10). FEMA's environmental planning and historic preservation review reveals that all environmental areas of concern are appropriately accounted for in the PEA with the exception of floodplain impacts. A Tiered Site-Specific Environmental Assessment (SEA) has been prepared in accordance with the July 2010 PEA to focus on Executive Order (EO) 11988 requirements and floodplain impacts of the proposed project.

The SEA evaluates alternatives that provide for compliance with EO 11988. The alternatives evaluated include (1) No Action and (2) the Proposed Action, the construction of a new Regional Marine Security Center within the Sabine Pass Port Authority complex in Sabine Pass, Jefferson County, Texas (Latitude: 29.73635, Longitude: -93.88345). The proposed project is located within Zone V of the 100-year floodplain.

The Draft SEA summarizes the purpose and need, alternatives, affected environment, and potential environmental consequences for the proposed action. The Draft SEA is available for comment and can be viewed and downloaded from FEMA's website at <http://www.fema.gov/plan/ehp/envdocuments/ea-region6.shtm>. An electronic copy can also be requested from Dorothy Weir at dorothy.weir@dhs.gov. The Draft SEA can be viewed at the following location at any time of day between April 13, 2011 and April 27, 2011:

- Sabine Pass Post Office, 5424 Tremont Street, Sabine Pass, TX 77655

The comment period will end 15 days from the initial notice publication date of (April 13, 2011). Written comments on the Draft SEA can be mailed, emailed, or faxed to the contact below. If no substantive comments are received, the Draft SEA will become final and a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) will be issued for the project. Substantive comments will be addressed as appropriate in the final documents.

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